

CLAIMS LISTING:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for damping resonance comprising: in

a conduit (10) for transporting exhaust gases from an internal combustion engine, which conduit (10) ~~is provided with~~ includes a wall separating an interior from an atmosphere surrounding the conduit, the wall having formed therein at least one perforation (14) located at a distance from ~~the~~ an exhaust gas outlet end (11) of the conduit, ~~the~~ at least one perforation (14) occupying and at a point in the conduit (10) with a comparatively lower static pressure than downstream therefrom, ~~the~~ at least one perforation (14) forming an acoustic connection as an aperture through the wall between the interior ~~of the conduit (10)~~ and the atmosphere surrounding the conduit (10) atmosphere.

2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the lower static pressure at the perforation (14) is brought about by means of a reduction in the cross section of the conduit.

3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 2, wherein the reduction in the cross section of the conduit (10) is designed as a venturi.

4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 3, wherein the reduction in the cross section of the conduit (10) designed as a venturi is covered on the outside with a sound-absorbing material.

5. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 4, wherein the sound-absorbing material is covered by a perforated plate (17).

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the lower static pressure ~~in the vicinity of the perforation (14)~~ at the point in the conduit is brought about by means of a change in direction of the gas flow in the conduit.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein the change in direction of the gas flow is brought about by means of [a] an unconstricted curve of the conduit.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for damping resonance ~~in~~ comprising:

a conduit (10) for transporting exhaust gases from an internal combustion engine, which conduit (10) ~~is provided with~~ includes a wall separating an interior from an atmosphere surrounding the conduit, the wall having an inside and an outside and further having formed therein at least one perforation (14) located at a distance from ~~the~~ an exhaust gas outlet end (11) of the conduit, ~~the at least one perforation (14) occupying and~~ at a point in the conduit (10) with a comparatively lower static pressure than downstream therefrom, the at least one perforation (14) forming an acoustic connection as an aperture through the wall between the interior ~~of the conduit (10)~~ and the atmosphere surrounding ~~the conduit (10)~~ atmosphere, and wherein the at least one perforation[s] (14) ~~are covered by means~~ has a cover of [a] sound-permeable fabric (20) on the inside or outside of the wall of the conduit (10).

9. – 11. (Cancel)

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 8, wherein the lower static pressure ~~in the vicinity of the perforation (14)~~ at the point in the conduit is brought about by means of a reduction in the cross section of the conduit.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 12, wherein the reduction in the cross section of the conduit (10) is designed as a venturi.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 13, wherein the reduction in the cross section of the conduit (10) designed as a venturi is covered on the outside with a sound-absorbing material.

15 (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 14, wherein the sound-absorbing material is covered by a perforated plate (17).

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 8, wherein the lower static pressure ~~in the vicinity of the perforation (14)~~ at the point in the conduit is brought about by means of a change in direction of the gas flow in the conduit.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein the change in direction of the gas flow is brought about by means of [a] an unconstricted curve of the conduit.

18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the conduit (10) is an end pipe that transports exhaust gases away from a silencer, out into the surrounding environment.

19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 8, wherein the conduit (10) is an end pipe that transports exhaust gases away from a silencer, out into the surrounding environment.

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 9, wherein the exhaust conduit is an end pipe that transports exhaust gases away from a silencer, out into the surrounding environment.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 11, wherein the exhaust conduit is an end pipe that transports exhaust gases away from a silencer, out into the surrounding environment.

22. (New) Apparatus for transporting exhaust gas from an internal combustion engine into a surrounding, outside, ambient atmospheric environment, said apparatus comprising a conduit that is configured at at least one point to produce comparatively lower pressure than at an outlet end of said conduit, wherein said conduit has a perforation located at said point of lower pressure, said perforation forming at least part of a passageway by means of which air-carried sound pressure energy can be released from inside of said conduit into said surrounding, outside, ambient atmospheric environment.

23. (New) A vehicle, comprising:

an internal combustion engine; and

apparatus for transporting exhaust gas from said internal combustion engine into a surrounding, outside, ambient atmospheric environment, said apparatus comprising a conduit that is configured at at least one point to produce comparatively lower pressure than at an outlet end of said conduit, wherein said conduit has a perforation located at said point of lower pressure, said perforation forming at least part of a passageway by means of which air-carried sound pressure energy can be released from inside of said conduit into said surrounding, outside, ambient atmospheric environment.